## **CLAIMS**

## What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method, comprising:
- 2 providing binary information to be transferred in synchronizing a server and a
- 3 synchronization client associated with a handheld device;
- 4 compressing the binary information;
- 5 encoding compressed binary information using a text encoder;
- 6 encoding text encoded information according to a protocol associated with a
- 7 connection between the server and the synchronization client.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the binary information is compressed using a
- 2 Zip compression utility.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the text encoder comprises a Base-64
- 2 encoder.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the protocol is the hypertext transfer protocol.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the binary information comprises database
- 2 data stored on the server.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the binary information comprises metadata
- 2 stored on the server.

- 1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the binary information comprises transaction
- 2 information stored on the handheld device.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein providing the binary information to be
- 2 transferred further comprises parsing the binary information into smaller units.
- 1 9. An apparatus, comprising:
- 2 means for providing binary information to be transferred in synchronizing a
- 3 server and a synchronization client associated with a handheld device;
- 4 means for compressing the binary information;
- 5 means for text encoding compressed binary information;
- 6 means for encoding text encoded information according to a protocol
- 7 associated with a connection between the server and the synchronization client.
- 1 10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the means for compressing binary
- 2 information comprises a Zip compression utility.
- 1 11. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the means for text encoding comprises a
- 2 Base-64 encoder.
- 1 12. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the protocol is the hypertext transfer
- 2 protocol.
- 1 13. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the binary information comprises database
- 2 data stored on the server.

- 1 14. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the binary information comprises metadata
- 2 stored on the server.
- 1 15. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the binary information comprises
- 2 transaction information stored on the handheld device.
- 1 16. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the means for providing binary information
- 2 to be transferred further comprises means for parsing the binary information into
- 3 smaller units.
- 1 17. A machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions
- 2 that when executed by a server cause the server to perform operations comprising:
- 3 providing binary information to be transferred in synchronizing the server and
- 4 a synchronization client associated with a handheld device:
- 5 compressing the binary information;
- 6 encoding compressed binary information using a text encoder;
- 7 encoding text encoded information according to a protocol associated with a
- $8\,$   $\,$  connection between the server and the synchronization client.
- 1 18. The machine-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the binary information is
- 2 compressed using a Zip compression utility.
- 1 19. The machine-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the text encoder
- 2 comprises a Base-64 encoder.

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- 1 20. The machine-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the protocol is the
- 2 hypertext transfer protocol.
- 1 21. The machine-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the binary information
- 2 comprises database data stored on the server.
- 1 22. The machine-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the binary information
- 2 comprises metadata stored on the server.
- 1 23. The machine-readable medium of claim 17, wherein providing the binary
- 2 information to be transferred further comprises parsing the binary information into
- 3 smaller units.
- 1 24. A machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions
- 2 that when executed by a handheld device cause the handheld device to perform
- 3 operations comprising:
  - providing binary information to be transferred in synchronizing a server and a
- 5 synchronization client associated with the handheld device:
- 6 compressing the binary information;
- 7 encoding compressed binary information using a text encoder;
- 8 encoding text encoded information according to a protocol associated with a
- 9 connection between the server and the synchronization client.
- 1 25. The machine-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the binary information
- 2 comprises transaction information stored on the handheld device.

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- 1 26. The machine-readable medium of claim 24, wherein providing the binary
- 2 information to be transferred further comprises parsing the binary information into
- 3 smaller units.
- 1 27. A handheld device, comprising:
- 2 a memory;
- a local database stored in the memory;
- 4 a user interface coupled to the local database;
- a transaction recorder coupled to the local database, wherein the transaction recorder to record information related to changes made to the local database by a user of the handheld device via the user interface; and
  - a data importer coupled to the local database, wherein the data importer to decompress database data receivable from a separate computing device to synchronize the local database with the separate computing device, the database data being binary information that the separate computing device:
- 12 compressed,
- encoded using a text encoder, and
- encoded according to a protocol associated with a connection between
- 15 the separate computing device and the handheld device
  - $1\,$  28. The handheld device of claim 27, wherein the binary information is
  - 2 compressed using a Zip compression utility.
  - 1 29. The handheld device of claim 27, wherein the text encoder comprises a
  - 2 Base-64 encoder.

- 1 30. The handheld device of claim 27, wherein the protocol is the hypertext
- 2 transfer protocol.
- 1 31. The handheld device of claim 27, wherein the binary information comprises
- 2 database data stored on a server.
- 1 32. The handheld device of claim 27, wherein the binary information comprises
- 2 metadata stored on a server.